

New Kennedy crisis

JOAN KENNEDY'S desperate battle with the bottle has a silver lining: She is back in the loving arms of her ex-husband, Ted, and friends are predicting that a remarriage may be just around the corner.

After Joan's arrest for drunk driving, following the July 4th weekend, Ted and their kids begged her to return to their home outside Washington so that they could help her get off booze once and for all — and she finally agreed.

Ted and Joan have taken their troubles to a priest, who's trying to

help them patch up their relationship. "They've had several dates in Washington," a family friend reveals. "They were even holding hands at a play they attended."

Ted and the kids persuaded Joan to check into a rehabilitation clinic. "When Joan finishes the therapy, she's planning to give her relationship with Ted another try," the friend says.

"They are talking honestly to each other about their problems for the first time in their lives. They have a real good chance of patching

brings Teddy and Joan together again

things up. Teddy Jr., Kara and Patrick are thrilled. Patrick, their youngest, barely remembers his parents being together. And he definitely doesn't remember them being this happy."

Ted has promised to attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings with Joan and to give up social drinking so he can stand side-by-side with her in her fight to stay sober.

"Ted is still worried about Joan's condition," another source says. "She has come out of the deep depression she suffered after her arrest.



A remarriage may be just around the corner for Ted and Joan, say friends

But they both know it wouldn't take much for her to fall back into it.

"But all the members of the Kennedy clan are pulling for her to put her drinking behind her and for Ted and Joan to get back together."

Ted and Joan are amazed that their romance has suddenly rekindled.

"But if things work out, they probably will have another wedding," the friend says. "It's ironic that a tragedy like Joan's falling off the wagon would have such a happy ending."

— LEON WAGENER